

---

 S T A T U T O R Y   I N S T R U M E N T S
 

---

1970 No. 233

## ROAD TRAFFIC

**The Road Vehicles Lighting (Amendment) (No. 2)  
Regulations 1970**

|                               |                    |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| <i>Made - - - -</i>           | 13th February 1970 |
| <i>Laid before Parliament</i> | 26th February 1970 |
| <i>Coming into Operation</i>  | 1st October 1970   |

The Minister of Transport in exercise of his powers under sections 5(1) and 11(1) of the Road Transport Lighting Act 1957(a) and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with representative organisations in accordance with the provisions of section 13 of the said Act of 1957, as amended by section 264 of, and Schedule 17 to, the Road Traffic Act 1960(b), hereby makes the following Regulations:—

1.—(1) These Regulations shall come into operation on the 1st October 1970, and may be cited as the Road Vehicles Lighting (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1970.

(2) The Interpretation Act 1889(c) shall apply for the interpretation of these Regulations as it applies for the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

2. The Road Vehicles Lighting Regulations 1964(d), as amended(e), shall have effect as though—

(1) in Regulation 3, after paragraph (1A) there were inserted the following paragraph:—

“(1B) For the purpose of these Regulations, in determining when a mechanically propelled vehicle is first used, the date of such first use shall be taken to be such date as is the earliest of the undermentioned relevant dates applicable to that vehicle:—

(a) in the case of a vehicle registered under the Roads Act 1920(f), the Vehicles (Excise) Act 1949(g) or the Vehicles (Excise) Act 1962(h), the relevant date is the date on which it was first so registered; and

(b) in each of the following cases—

(i) in the case of a vehicle which is being or has been used under a trade licence as defined in section 12 of the Vehicles (Excise) Act 1962 (otherwise than for the purposes of demonstration or testing or of being delivered from premises of the manufacturer by whom it was made, or of a distributor of vehicles

---

(a) 1957 c. 51.

(c) 1889 c. 63.

(e) The relevant amending instrument is S.I. 1968/1247 (1968 II, p. 3373).

(f) 1920 c. 72.

(h) 1962 c. 13.

(b) 1960 c. 16.

(d) S.I. 1964/205 (1964 I, p. 345).

(g) 1949 c. 89.

or dealer in vehicles to premises of a distributor of vehicles, dealer in vehicles or purchaser thereof, or to premises of a person obtaining possession thereof under a hiring agreement or hire purchase agreement);

- (ii) in the case of a vehicle belonging, or which has belonged, to the Crown which is or was used or appropriated for use for naval, military or air force purposes;
- (iii) in the case of a vehicle belonging, or which has belonged, to a visiting force or a headquarters or defence organisation to which in each case the Visiting Forces and International Headquarters (Application of Law) Order 1965(a) applies;
- (iv) in the case of a vehicle, being a vehicle which has been used on roads outside Great Britain and which has been imported into Great Britain, and
- (v) in the case of a vehicle, being a vehicle which has been used otherwise than on roads after being sold or supplied by retail and before being registered;

the relevant date is the date of manufacture of the vehicle.

In sub-paragraph (v) of this paragraph "sold or supplied by retail" means sold or supplied otherwise than to a person acquiring solely for the purpose of resale or re-supply for a valuable consideration.";

- (2) after Regulation 11, there were added the following Regulation:—

*“Additional markings for obligatory front lamps*

11A.—(1) In this Regulation, "approval mark" means a marking designated as an approval mark by Regulation 2(2) of the Motor Vehicles (Designation of Approval Marks) Regulations 1968(b).

(2) Every obligatory front lamp to which this paragraph applies shall be marked with an approval mark and with the symbol "A" enclosed in a square above such mark and in relation to such a lamp so marked the last preceding Regulation shall not apply.

(3) The obligatory front lamps to which the last preceding paragraph applies are obligatory front lamps carried on every mechanically propelled vehicle (other than a bicycle propelled by mechanical power) first used on or after 1st January 1972.

(4) Nothing in this Regulation shall be taken to authorise any person to apply an approval mark or the said symbol "A" to any obligatory front lamp in contravention of the Trade Descriptions Act 1968(c).";

- (3) after Part VII there were inserted the following Part:—

“PART VIIA

REGULATIONS GOVERNING ADDITIONAL REFLECTORS ON LONG VEHICLES  
AND TRAILERS

*Vehicles to which this Part applies*

37A. This Part of these Regulations shall apply to motor vehicles the length of which exceeds eight metres and to trailers the length of which exceeds five metres, not being, in either case—

- (a) a vehicle mentioned in paragraph (a) of Regulation 27 of these Regulations; or

(a) S.I. 1965/1536 (1965 II, p. 4462).  
(c) 1968 c. 29.

(b) S.I. 1968/171 (1968 I, p. 403).

- (b) a vehicle being used for the time being as a public service vehicle (which expression shall be construed in accordance with sections 117 and 118 of the Road Traffic Act 1960) or on any journey incidental to such use; or
- (c) a trailer which is a broken down motor vehicle the length of which does not exceed eight metres; or
- (d) a mobile crane; or
- (e) engineering plant; or
- (f) a vehicle constructed for the primary purpose of moving excavated material, the use on roads of such vehicle being authorised by the Motor Vehicles (Authorisation of Special Types) General Order 1969(a).

*Interpretation*

37B. In this Part of these Regulations “side facing reflector”, in relation to a vehicle, means a reflector which—

- (a) is not an obligatory reflector;
- (b) is amber in colour;
- (c) is marked with an approval mark incorporating the roman numeral I.

In this paragraph, “approval mark” means a marking designated as an approval mark by the Motor Vehicles (Designation of Approval Marks) (No. 2) Regulations 1964(b).

*Carriage and position of side facing reflectors on certain motor vehicles*

37C.—(1) Every motor vehicle to which this Part of these Regulations applies and which is first used on or after 1st October 1970 shall when on a road during the hours of darkness carry two side facing reflectors on each side of the vehicle in accordance with the provisions of the next succeeding paragraph.

(2) At each side of the vehicle—

- (a) no part of the reflecting area of one side facing reflector shall be more than five hundred millimetres from the extreme rear of the vehicle; and
- (b) no part of the reflecting area of the other side facing reflector shall be at a distance of less than one third or more than two thirds of the length of the vehicle from the extreme rear thereof.

37D. On and after 1st January 1971, every motor vehicle to which this Part of these Regulations applies and which is first used before 1st October 1970 shall when on a road during the hours of darkness carry two side facing reflectors on each side of the vehicle in accordance with the provisions of Regulation 37C(2).

*Carriage and position of side facing reflectors on certain trailers*

37E.—(1) Every trailer to which this Part of these Regulations applies and which is manufactured on or after 1st October 1970 shall when on a road during the hours of darkness carry two side facing reflectors on each side of the trailer in accordance with the provisions of the next succeeding paragraph.

(2) At each side of the trailer—

(a) S.I. 1969/344 (1969 I, p. 947).

(b) S.I. 1964/1561 (1964 III, p. 3509).

- (a) no part of the reflecting area of one side facing reflector shall be more than five hundred millimetres from the extreme rear of the trailer; and
  - (b) no part of the reflecting area of the other side facing reflector shall be at a distance of less than one third or more than two thirds of the length of the trailer from the extreme rear thereof.
- (3) For the purposes of this and the next succeeding Regulation, in reckoning the length of a trailer its drawbar and any fitting for the attachment thereof shall be disregarded.

37F. On and after 1st January 1971, every trailer to which this Part of these Regulations applies and which is manufactured before 1st October 1970 shall when on a road during the hours of darkness carry two side facing reflectors on each side of the trailer in accordance with the provisions of Regulation 37E(2).

*Further provision as to side facing reflectors*

37G. Every side facing reflector required by this Part of these Regulations to be carried by a vehicle shall—

- (a) be fixed to the vehicle so that—
  - (i) no part of its reflecting area is less than four hundred millimetres from the ground; and
  - (ii) in the case of a vehicle mentioned in Regulation 37C(1) or Regulation 37E(1), no part of such area is more than twelve hundred millimetres from the ground; and
  - (iii) in the case of a vehicle mentioned in Regulation 37D or Regulation 37F, no part of such area is more than fifteen hundred millimetres from the ground;
- (b) be so fixed to the vehicle that the reflecting area of the reflector is in a vertical position and facing squarely to the side of the vehicle; and
- (c) be kept clean and plainly visible from the side of the vehicle.”

Given under the Official Seal of the Minister of Transport the 13th February 1970.

(L.S.)

*Fred Mulley,*  
Minister of Transport.

## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This Note is not part of the Regulations.)*

These Regulations further amend the Road Vehicles Lighting Regulations 1964. The principal changes are:—

1. Obligatory front lamps carried by motor vehicles (except motor bicycles) first used on or after 1st January 1972 are required to be marked with an approval mark designated by the Motor Vehicles (Designation of Approval Marks) Regulations 1968 (Regulation 2(2)).
2. Subject to certain exceptions, motor vehicles more than 8 metres long first used on or after 1st October 1970 and trailers more than 5 metres long manufactured on or after 1st October 1970 are required to carry two side facing amber reflectors on each side thereof in specified positions (Regulations 37A, 37C and 37E of the new Part VIIA).
3. Subject to the same exceptions, on and after 1st January 1971 all motor vehicles and trailers more than 8 and 5 metres long respectively which in the case of motor vehicles are first used or in the case of trailers are manufactured before 1st October 1970 are required to carry two side facing amber reflectors on each side thereof in specified positions (Regulations 37A, 37D and 37F of the new Part VIIA).

SI 1970/ 233  
ISBN 0-11-000233-4



780110 002330